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Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2011

by Shannon Brennan

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Corrections have been made to this product.

The publication has been reloaded on **June 5, 2013**.

Please take note of the following change(s):

Note to readers
Due to incorrect reporting by a police service of incidents of child pornography from 2008 to 2011, the data originally contained in this report have been suppressed and revised data were made available on July 25, 2013 with the release of 2012 crime statistics.

We regret any inconvenience this may have caused.

Statistics Canada
Juristat

Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2011

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Note of appreciation

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Symbols

. not available for any reference period
.. not available for a specific reference period
... not applicable
0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
^{p} preliminary
^{r} revised
x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
^{E} use with caution
F too unreliable to be published
* significantly different from reference category ($p<0.05$)

Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2011: Highlights

- Police-reported crime decreased in 2011, continuing the downward trend seen over the past 20 years. Police reported about 2 million *Criminal Code* offences in 2011, about 110,000 fewer than in 2010.
- Both the crime rate, which measures the volume of crime reported to police, and the Crime Severity Index (CSI), which measures the severity of crime, dropped 6% in 2011. The drop in crime was seen in most parts of the country and for virtually all offences.
- As in past years, both the volume and severity of crime were found to be highest in the territories. Saskatchewan reported the highest CSI in 2011 among the provinces, followed by Manitoba, British Columbia and Alberta.
- Ontario had the lowest Crime Severity Index in the country, followed by New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. Nova Scotia was the only eastern province whose CSI in 2011 was above the national Index.
- All of Canada's census metropolitan areas (CMAs) reported a decrease in their CSI values. Regina continued to report the highest CSI value among all CMAs, followed by Saskatoon, Thunder Bay and Winnipeg. The lowest CSI values were seen in Guelph, Québec, Toronto and Ottawa.
- The violent crime rate and the violent Crime Severity Index also declined in 2011, both down 4%. The decrease in the violent CSI marks the fifth consecutive decline.
- Declines were seen in most violent offences, including attempted murders, major assaults, sexual assaults and robberies, as well as most non-violent offences including break-ins and motor vehicle thefts. The only offences to show an increase in 2011 were homicide, sexual offences against children, criminal harassment, impaired driving and most drug offences.
- The homicide rate increased in 2011, up 7%. The largest increases were reported in Alberta (+39%) and Quebec (+24%). Conversely, Ontario's rate dropped 16% to its lowest point since the mid-1960s.
- Winnipeg reported the highest homicide rate among all census metropolitan areas (CMAs), followed by Halifax and Edmonton.
- Police-reported youth crime also dropped in 2011. Both the youth crime rate and the youth Crime Severity Index decreased 10%. The rate of youth accused of some of the most serious violent offences also dropped: homicide (-16%), major assault (-4%) and robbery (-4%).

Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2011

by Shannon Brennan

Measuring the prevalence and nature of crime in Canada has been recognized as an important issue, as the amount of crime in a country can be seen as a reflection of the overall safety and well-being of the population (HRSDC 2012). There are two ways of measuring crime in Canada: using self-reported data from victimization surveys (See Text box 3), and using police-reported data. Since 1962, Statistics Canada has conducted the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey, which collects data on all criminal incidents reported to, and substantiated by, Canadian police services.[1]

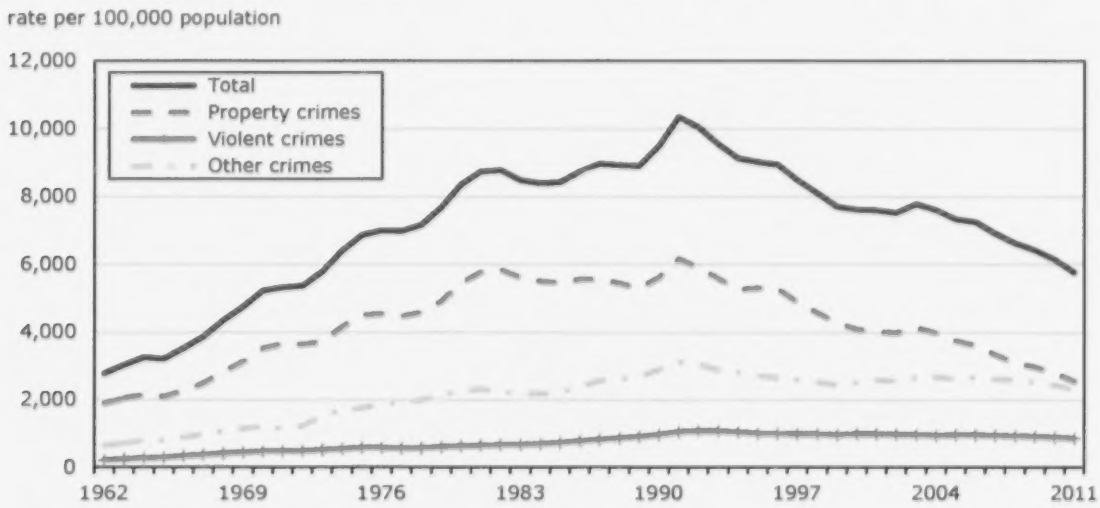
This *Juristat* article presents findings from the 2011 UCR Survey. It explores trends in the volume and severity of both violent and non-violent offences at the national, provincial/territorial and census metropolitan area levels. Further, this report examines changes in the number and rate of individual offences reported by police, including homicide, robbery, sexual offences, break-ins and motor vehicle theft. Finally, information pertaining to trends in the volume and severity of youth crime are presented.

Police-reported crime in Canada continues to decrease

The police-reported crime rate, which measures the total volume of crime per 100,000 population, continued to decline in 2011, down 6% from the previous year. Overall, this marked the eighth consecutive decrease in Canada's crime rate (Chart 1). Since peaking in 1991, the crime rate has generally been decreasing, and is now at its lowest point since 1972.

Canadian police services reported about 2 million *Criminal Code* offences in 2011, almost 110,000 fewer than in 2010 (Table 1a). Similar to previous years, the decline in the crime rate was driven primarily by decreases in the number of property offences, primarily theft under $5,000 (30,100 fewer incidents), mischief (24,100 fewer incidents), break-ins (15,800 fewer incidents) and theft of motor vehicle (10,100 fewer incidents).

Chart 1
Police-reported crime rates, Canada, 1962 to 2011

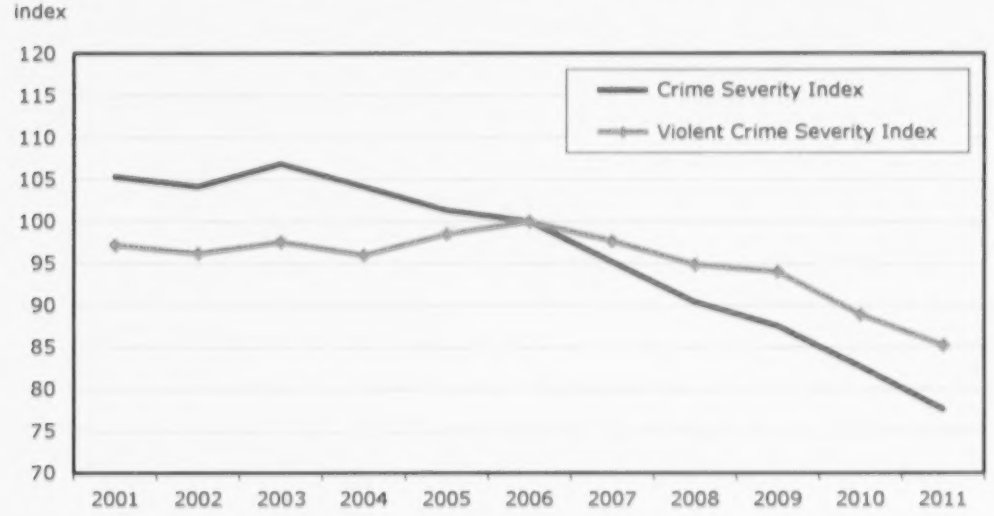


Note: Information presented in this graph represents data from the UCR Aggregate (UCR1) Survey, and allow for historical comparisons to be made back to 1962. New definitions of crime categories were introduced in 2009 and are only available in the new format back to 1998. As a result, numbers in this graph will not match data released in the new (UCR2) format. Specifically, the definition of violent crime has been expanded. Further, the total number of *Criminal Code* (excluding traffic violations) does not match in the two sets of tables, as the UCR1 survey included a number of newer traffic violations in the "Other, Other *Criminal Code*" section, as it did for other types of newer violations.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

1. These data conform to a nationally approved set of common crime categories and definitions that have been developed in co-operation with the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police.

In addition to measuring the volume of crime in Canada, it is also possible to measure the severity of crime, through the use of the Crime Severity Index (CSI) (See Text box 1). Over the past decade, the severity of police-reported crime has decreased in all but one year (2003). The CSI continued to decline in 2011, down 6% from 2010 and 26% lower than a decade earlier (Table 1b, Chart 2).

Chart 2
Police-reported crime severity indexes, 2001 to 2011



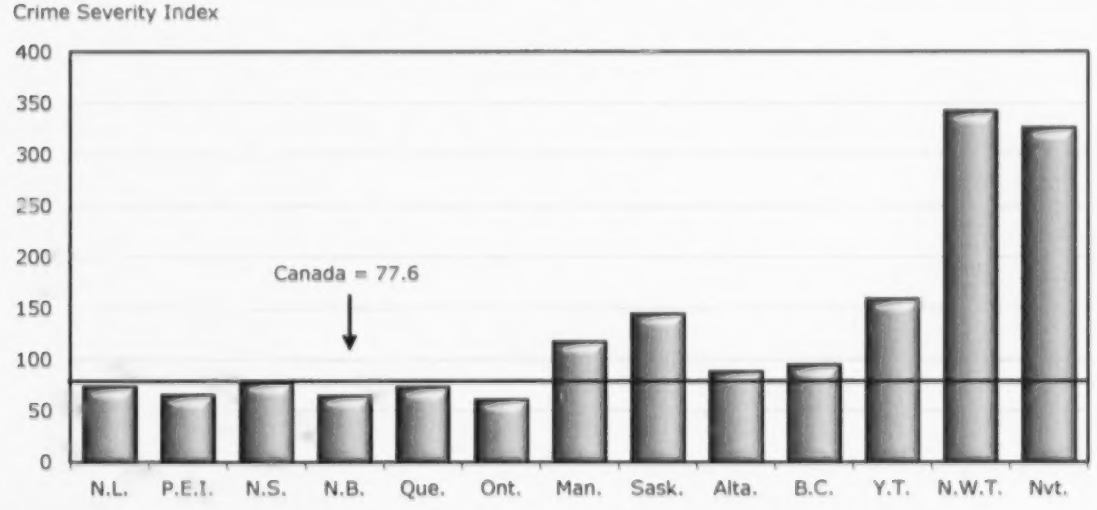
Note: Indexes have been standardized to a base year of 2006 which is equal to 100.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Declines in crime seen across most of the country

Between 2010 and 2011, both the volume and severity of police-reported crime declined or remained stable across most of the country (Table 2a, Table 2b). Among the provinces, Alberta and Newfoundland and Labrador reported the largest declines in crime severity, down 10% and 8% respectively.

As in past years, both the volume and severity of police-reported crime were found to be highest in the territories, particularly in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut (Table 2a, Chart 3).

Chart 3
Police-reported Crime Severity Index, by province and territory, 2011



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Text box 1
Measuring police-reported crime

In Canada, there are two complementary ways police-reported crime can be measured: the traditional crime rate and the Crime Severity Index (CSI). The crime rate measures the **volume** of crime while the Crime Severity Index measures the **seriousness** of crime.

Crime rate: Since 1962, trends in overall police-reported crime have been measured using the traditional "crime rate", which is expressed as a rate per 100,000 population. It is calculated by summing all criminal incidents (excluding *Criminal Code* traffic offences and other Federal Statute offences such as drug offences) reported to the police and dividing by the population. In this calculation, all offences are counted equally; for example, one incident of murder equals one incident of theft. As such, the crime rate tends to be driven by high-volume, less serious offences, such as minor thefts and mischief. Reporting of these offences may vary due to differences across jurisdictions in, for example, insurance deductibles, requirement of a police report for insurance purposes, or the use of municipal by-laws or provincial statutes.

In addition to the overall crime rate, there are three sub-totals: violent, property and other *Criminal Code*, each of which is available from 1962. Rates are also available for youth crime. However, while crime rates in general are based upon counts of incidents, youth crime rates are based upon counts of individuals aged 12 to 17 years who have been charged by police or where there is sufficient information for police to lay a charge.

Crime Severity Index: To address the issue of the overall crime rate being driven by high-volume, less-serious offences such as minor thefts, mischief and common assaults, another measure of police-reported crime, called the Crime Severity Index, is used. For simplicity, this measure is referred to as the CSI. The CSI not only takes into account the volume of crime, but also the seriousness of crime.

In the calculation of the CSI, each offence is assigned a weight, derived from sentences handed down by criminal courts. The more serious the average sentence, the higher the weight for that offence. As a result, more serious offences have a greater impact on the Index.

All offences, including traffic and drug offences, are included in the CSI. The calculation for the CSI involves summing the weighted offences and dividing by the population. The CSI is then standardized to a base year (2006) of "100". CSI values are available back to 1998. In addition to the overall CSI, both a violent CSI and a non-violent CSI have been created.

Using the same basic concept of weighting offences according to their seriousness, there is also a CSI specific to youth (12 to 17 years) who have been charged by police or where there is sufficient information for police to lay a charge. As is the case for the CSI in general, there is a youth overall CSI, a youth violent CSI and a youth non-violent CSI, each of which is available from 1998 to present.

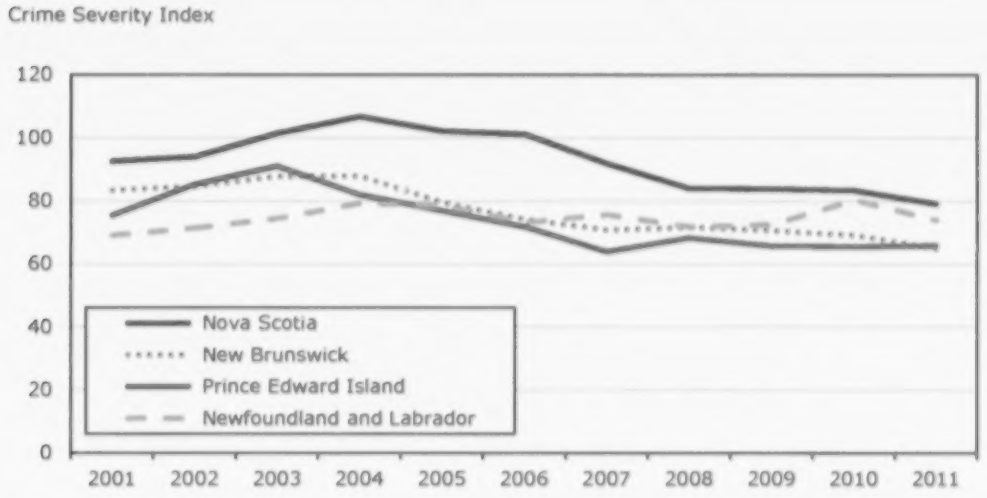
For more information on the Crime Severity Index, see *Measuring Crime in Canada: Introducing the Crime Severity Index and Improvements to the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey* (Wallace et al. 2009) and *The Methodology of the Police-Reported Crime Severity Index* (Babyak et al. 2009).

Among the provinces, those in the west reported higher crime rates and crime severity compared to those in the east, continuing a well established trend. For example, as has been the case since 1998, Saskatchewan reported the highest CSI in 2011, followed by Manitoba, British Columbia and Alberta.

Ontario had the lowest Crime Severity Index in the country in 2011, followed by New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. Nova Scotia was the only eastern province whose CSI in 2011 was above the national Index.

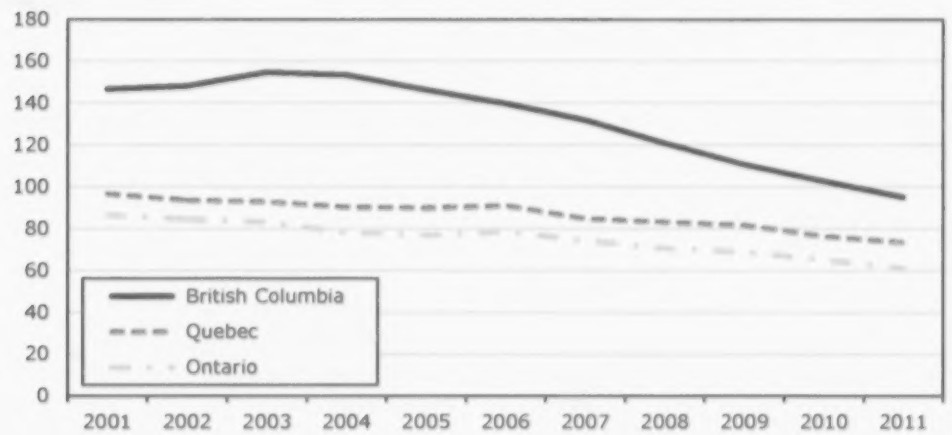
Most jurisdictions have seen a decrease in the CSI over the past 10 years (Charts 4 to 7). Since 2001, the CSI has declined in every province and territory with the exception of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Chart 4
Police-reported Crime Severity Index, Atlantic provinces, 2001 to 2011



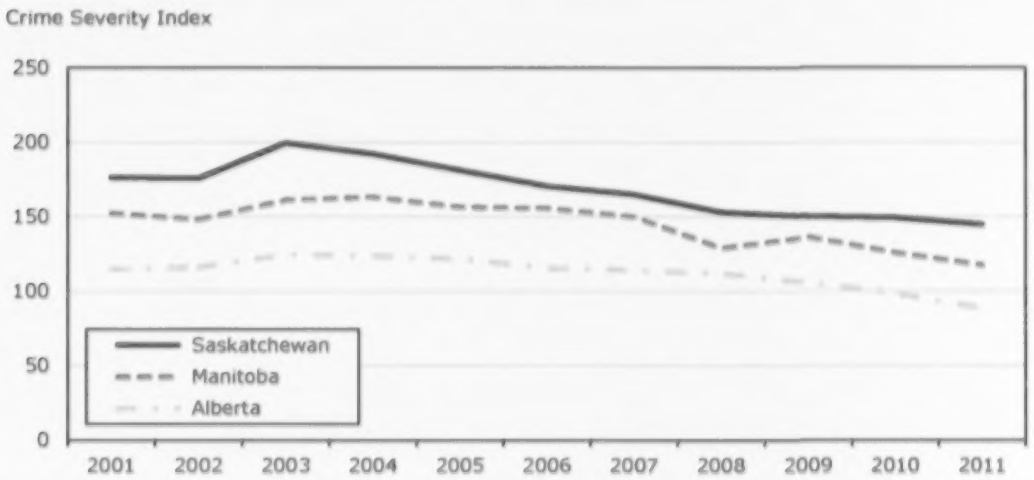
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 5
Police-reported Crime Severity Index, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia, 2001 to 2011



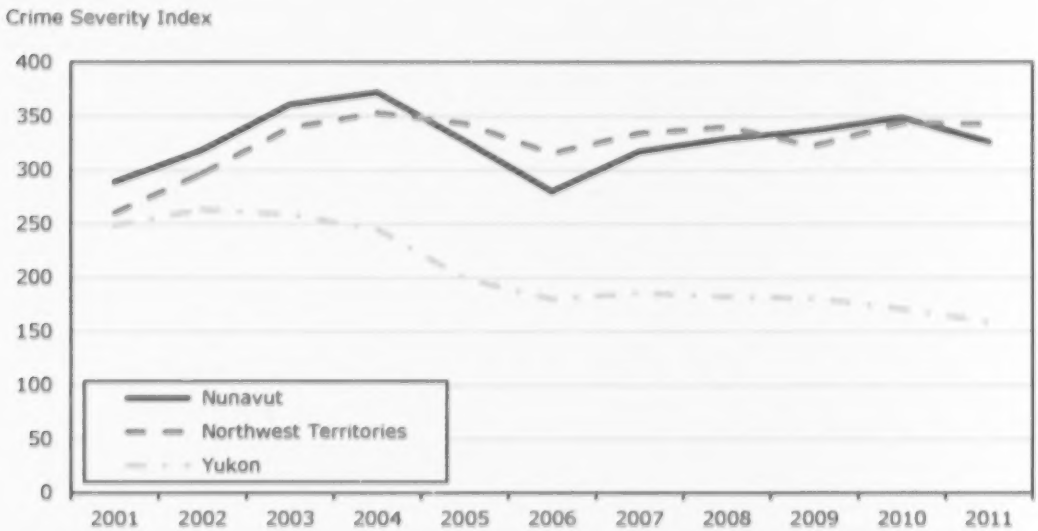
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 6
Police-reported Crime Severity Index, Prairies, 2001 to 2011



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Chart 7
Police-reported Crime Severity Index, Territories, 2001 to 2011



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

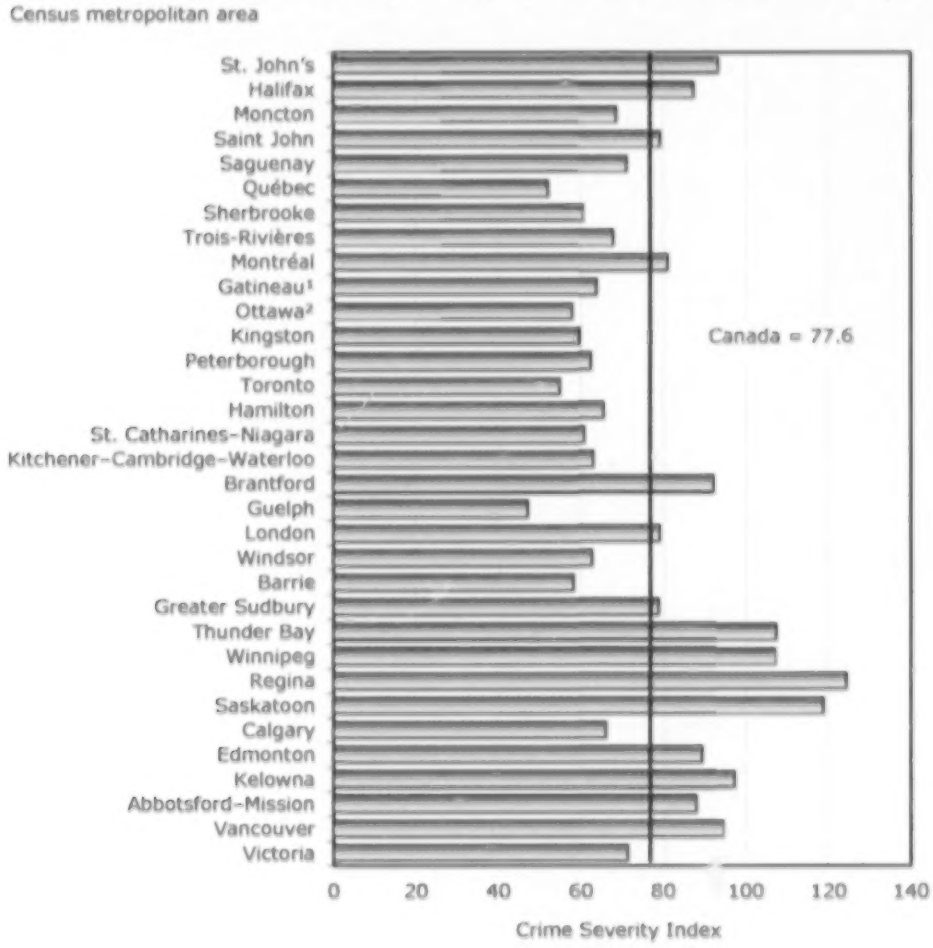
Severity of crime declines in every census metropolitan area

Both the volume and severity of crime declined in almost all of Canada's census metropolitan areas (CMAs)[2] in 2011. The largest declines in crime rates were seen in Victoria (-16%) and in Saint John (-14%). These CMAs also reported among the largest decreases in crime severity, down 17% and 14% respectively (Table 3).

2. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.

Regina continued to report the highest CSI in 2011, followed by Saskatoon, Thunder Bay and Winnipeg. Calgary and Victoria were the only western CMAs with CSI values below the national index (Chart 8). Guelph reported the lowest CSI value among all the CMAs for the fifth year in a row, followed by Québec, Toronto and Ottawa.

Chart 8
Police-reported Crime Severity Index, by census metropolitan area, 2011



1. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.
2. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.

Note: The Oshawa census metropolitan area (CMA) is excluded from this chart due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Police-reported CSI values are also available for the approximately 240 police services policing at least one population centre over 10,000 population (Statistics Canada 2012a). Among these, North Battleford, Saskatchewan reported the highest CSI value for the third year in a row, followed by Thompson, Manitoba. The lowest CSI values were generally found in Ontario, with Amherstburg and LaSalle reporting the lowest.

Text box 2
Factors affecting police-reported crime statistics

There are many factors that can influence police-reported crime statistics including local police service policies and procedures; changes in various demographic, social and economic factors; neighbourhood characteristics; technological advancements; legislative amendments; and public perception and attitudes.

Differences in local police service policies, procedures and enforcement practices can affect crime statistics. Some police services maintain call centres or allow for on-line reporting to receive and record criminal incidents, while others require victims to report crimes in person. Further, in some jurisdictions, less serious offences may be dealt with through municipal 311 call centres, by-law services or provincial legislation. Examples of these include noise complaints, mischief and fail to stop or remain. Finally, offences such as impaired driving, prostitution and drug crimes may be influenced by police practices that focus more efforts on addressing these types of offences when time, resources and priorities permit.

Among demographic factors, change in the age structure of the population has been shown to influence the volume of crime that is committed. In general, crime rates tend to decrease with age (see Police-reported youth crime section). In addition, social and economic factors such as shifts in inflation, alcohol consumption and unemployment rates have also been found to be associated with certain crime trends (Pottie-Bunge et al. 2005).

Differences in neighbourhood characteristics can also affect crime statistics. Studies have shown that the type and volume of crime reported by police can vary based on the population density, residential mobility and economic activities of neighbourhoods (Charron 2009).

The advent of new technologies has created new types and opportunities for crime (e.g. cyber crime) (Nuth 2008). In the same vein, changes to criminal justice legislation, such as the introduction of a new offence, can impact police enforcement practices which may in turn affect the number of police-reported criminal incidents.

Societal attitudes and perceptions of certain crimes, such as sexual assault or spousal violence, can also affect the number of incidents reported to police (Bowles et al. 2009). The ease of public reporting and the perception surrounding an incident can impact whether a criminal incident becomes known to police and subsequently reported to Statistics Canada through the UCR Survey.

Violent crime

Violent crime severity decreases for fifth consecutive year

Both the volume and severity of violent crime declined in 2011. The violent crime rate fell 4% between 2010 and 2011, as did the violent CSI, marking the fifth consecutive drop in the severity of violent crime (Table 1a, Table 1b).

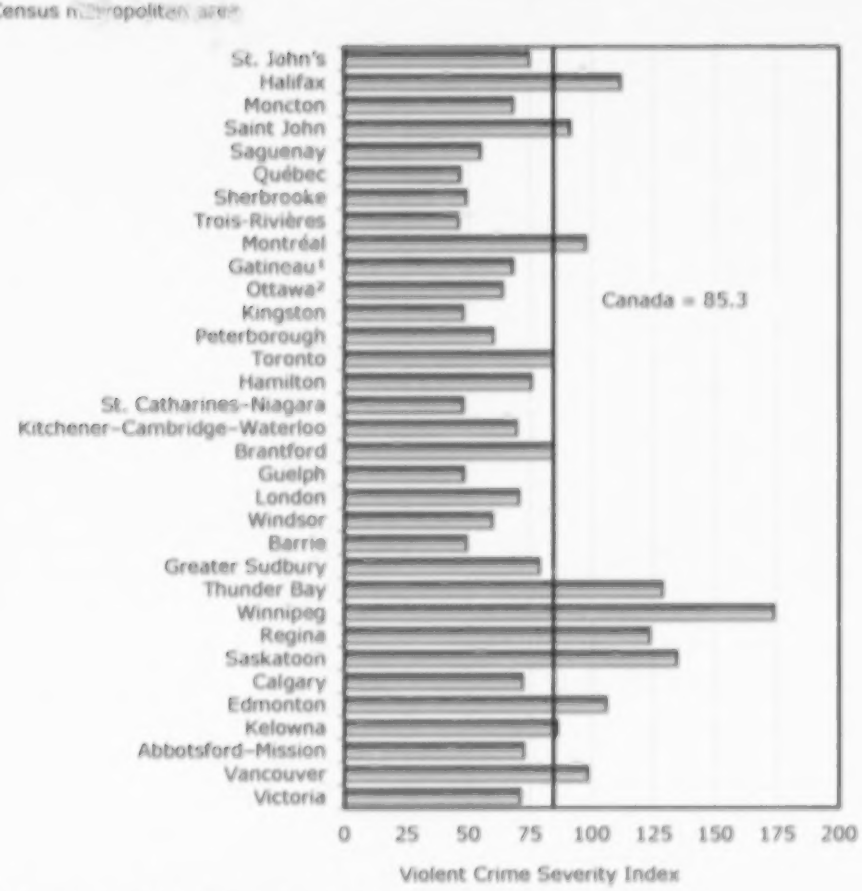
Similar to previous years, violent crimes accounted for about one-fifth of offences reported by police in 2011. Police reported more than 424,400 violent incidents, 14,800 fewer than in 2010.

Almost every type of violent crime decreased or remained stable in 2011, with the exception of a 7% increase in the rate of homicides, a 3% increase in the rate of sexual offences against children and a 1% increase in criminal harassment (Table 4).

The severity of violent crime declined or remained stable across every province and territory in 2011. Prince Edward Island reported the lowest violent CSI value among the provinces, while Manitoba continued to report the highest (Table 2b).

With a 6% increase in 2011, Winnipeg reported the highest violent CSI (173.8) among census metropolitan areas (CMAs), well above Saskatoon's violent CSI of 134.5, the next highest CMA (Chart 9). Five other CMAs recorded increases in their violent CSI, with the largest being reported in Gatineau (+14%) and Guelph (+8%) (Table 3).

Chart 9
Police-reported Violent Crime Severity Index, by census metropolitan area, 2011



1. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.
2. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.

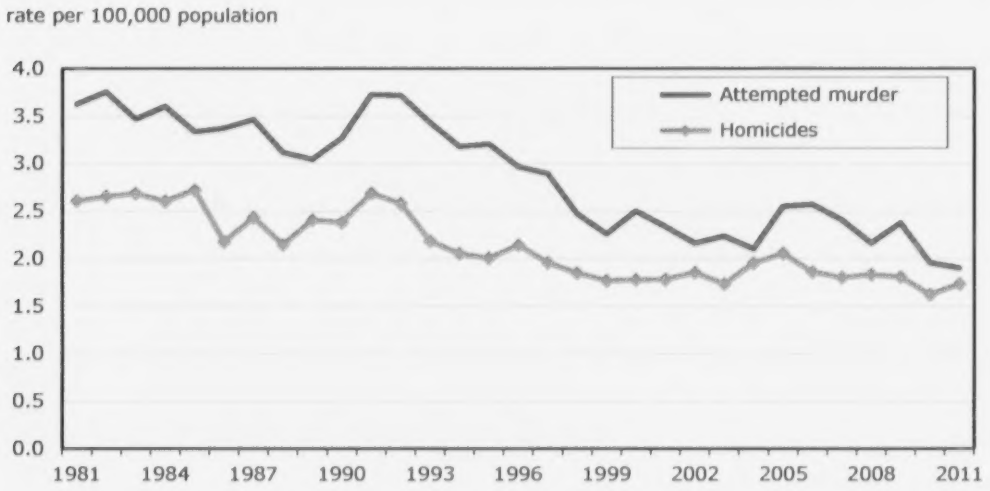
Note: The Oshawa census metropolitan area (CMA) is excluded from this chart due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Homicide rate increases in 2011

In general, homicide is a relatively rare event in Canada. Studies have shown that death as a result of homicide is lower than mortality resulting from unintentional injuries and suicide (Statistics Canada 2012b). As one of the few types of violent crime that almost invariably comes to the attention of police, homicide is generally recognized as a country's barometer of violence (Marshall and Block 2004).

In 2011, there were 598 homicides in Canada, 44 more than the previous year, marking a 7% increase in the homicide rate (1.7 per 100,000 population) (Table 4, Chart 10). The homicide rate has generally been decreasing since peaking in the mid-1970s.

Chart 10
Attempted murder and homicide, police-reported rates, Canada, 1981 to 2011

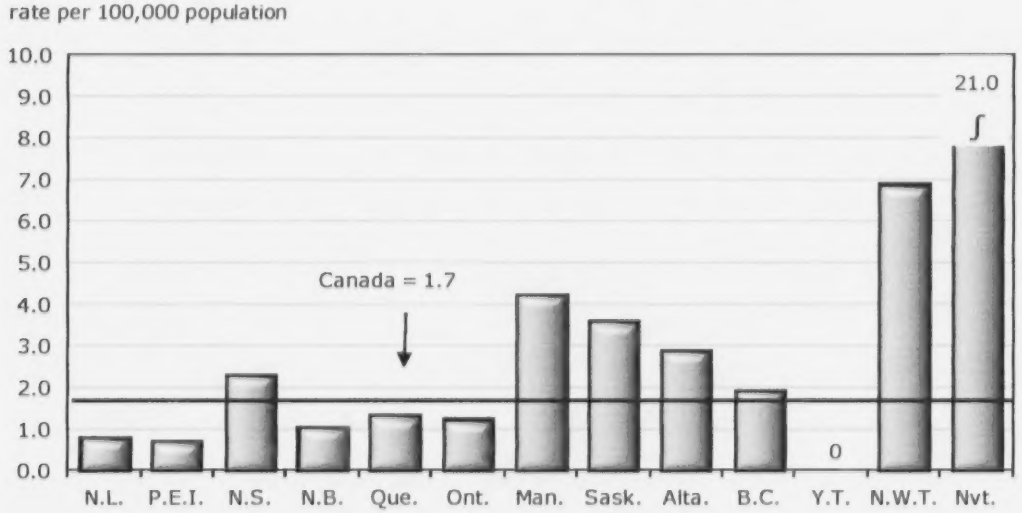


Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

With 109 homicides in 2011 (32 more than in 2010), Alberta saw the largest increase in homicide rates in 2011, up 39%, followed by Quebec (+24%) with 21 more homicides than in 2010 (Table 5). With 28 fewer homicides in 2011 than in 2010, the rate in Ontario reached its lowest point since 1966. British Columbia's homicide rate was the second lowest seen in the province since 1964, despite a 4% increase between 2010 and 2011.

Manitoba maintained the highest rate of homicide among the provinces for the fifth year in a row, followed by Saskatchewan and Alberta (Chart 11). Among the provinces, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador reported the lowest rates. Yukon was the only jurisdiction to report no homicides.

Chart 11
Homicide, police-reported rate, by province and territory, 2011



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

With 39 homicides in 2011, Winnipeg reported the highest homicide rate (5.1 homicides per 100,000 population) among all CMAs (Table 6). It was also the highest rate recorded in Winnipeg since 1981 when CMA data became available. The next highest rates were reported in Halifax (4.4) and Edmonton (4.2). The rate in Halifax was also its highest since 1981. Three CMAs reported no homicides in 2011: Moncton, Kingston and Greater Sudbury.

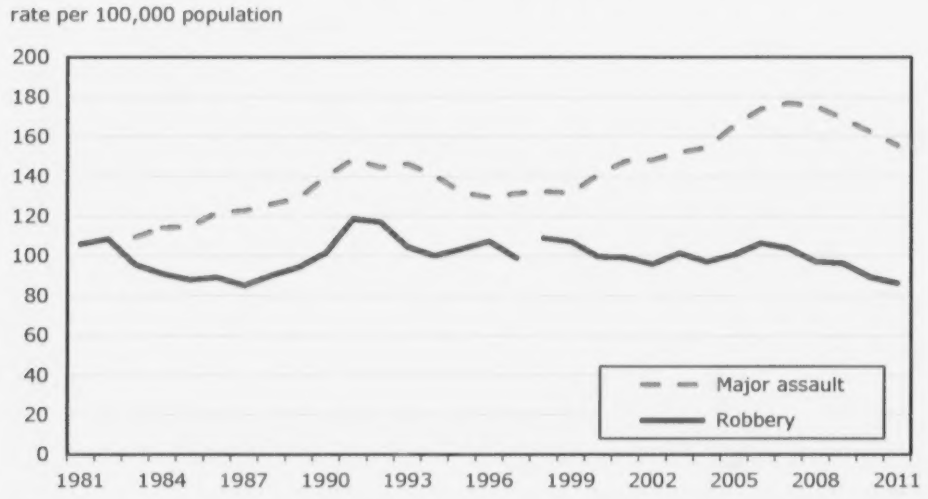
Although the homicide rate increased in 2011, the attempted murder rate declined, down 3% from the previous year. Overall, there were 655 attempted murders reported by police in 2011, 13 fewer than 2010. Though the rate of attempted murder has remained consistently higher than the homicide rate since the 1980s, these offences continue to display similar trends over time (Chart 10).

Aggravated assault and assault with a weapon decrease for fourth consecutive year

Assault is the most prevalent form of violent crime in Canada, accounting for close to 6 in 10 violent offences reported by police. In 2011, police reported close to 241,500 assaults, most of which (72%) were classified as common assaults (level 1), the least serious form in which little or no injury was caused to the victim. Common assaults have gradually declined over the past 10 years, including a 2% rate decrease in 2010.

In addition to level 1 assault, there is also assault with a weapon or causing bodily harm (level 2) and aggravated assault in which the victim is wounded, maimed or disfigured (level 3). In 2011, the combined rate of level 2 and level 3 assaults declined for the fourth consecutive year, down 4% from 2010 (Chart 12).

Chart 12
Major assault (levels 2 and 3) and robbery, police-reported rates, Canada, 1981 to 2011



Note: Trend data for serious assault begin in 1983 when legislation affecting the classification of assault came into effect. Revisions have been applied to robbery data back to 1998. As a result, there is a break in the data series between 1997 and 1998.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Despite an overall decrease in the national rate of major assault, some provinces reported increases between 2010 and 2011. Nova Scotia reported the largest increase in major assaults, up 15% from the previous year. Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador also saw small increases in 2011.

Overall, Saskatchewan and Manitoba reported the highest rates of major assault (levels 2 and 3). Similar to previous years, the rate of major assault in these provinces was about double those in most other provinces (Table 5).

Robbery rates decreased or remained stable across most of the country

Continuing a downward trend, the rate of robbery declined 3% in 2011 (Chart 12). Police reported more than 29,700 robberies in 2011, 700 less than the year before.

Police-reported robbery rates decreased or remained stable across most of the country, with the exception of Quebec (+4%). Provincially, the largest declines in robbery rates occurred in the Atlantic provinces: Newfoundland and Labrador (-32%) and Prince Edward Island (-28%).

Among all provinces and territories, Manitoba reported the highest rate of robbery. Unlike other forms of violent crime, robbery rates in the territories have typically been among the lowest in the country, a trend which continued in 2011 (Table 5).

As seen at the provincial level, most census metropolitan areas reported declining robbery rates. St. John's saw the largest decline, down 43% from 2010. However, some CMAs reported substantial increases: Barrie (+30%) and Greater Sudbury (+30%). With a 3% increase from 2010, Winnipeg continued to have the highest rate of robbery in the country (Table 6).

Police-reported rate of sexual assault continues downward trend

Similar to physical assault, sexual assault is categorized into three types, based on the severity of the incident. In 2011, police reported just over 21,800 sexual assaults, the majority of which (98%) were classified as level 1, the least serious of the three forms (Table 4).

Overall, the rate of sexual assault declined in 2011, down 3% from the previous year. While all three types of sexual assault decreased, aggravated sexual assault (level 3) saw the greatest decline (-23%).

Most provinces reported a decline in the rate of sexual assaults in 2011. Of those showing increases, Prince Edward Island was the largest (+22%), yet still reported the second lowest rate.

It is important to note that the number of sexual assaults reported by police is likely an undercount of the actual number of sexual assaults that occur. Self-reported victimization data from the General Social Survey have consistently shown that most sexual assaults are not brought to the attention of police (Perreault and Brennan 2010; Brennan and Taylor-Butts 2008). There are many reasons that victims gave for not reporting sexual assaults to police, including the belief that the incident wasn't important enough, feeling that it was a private matter and dealing with the situation in another way (Statistics Canada 2011, Brennan and Taylor-Butts 2008).

Sexual offences against children increase

In addition to capturing information on the three levels of sexual assault, the UCR also collects information on sexual violations specific to children, a category which includes sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, and luring a child via a computer.

Police reported over 3,800 incidents of sexual violations against children in 2011. The rate of sexual violations against children rose 3% between 2010 and 2011, making it one of the few categories of violent offences to increase in 2011 (Table 5). Among the specific offences included in this category, the rate of invitation to sexual touching (+8%) and luring a child via a computer (+10%) increased, while sexual interference remained stable and sexual exploitation decreased 7%.

Non-violent crime

Severity of non-violent crime continues to decrease

In 2011, the majority of offences reported by police were non-violent in nature, with property and other *Criminal Code* offences accounting for about 4 in 5 police-reported crimes. Theft under $5,000, mischief, break-ins and administration of justice offences were the most common type of non-violent crimes.

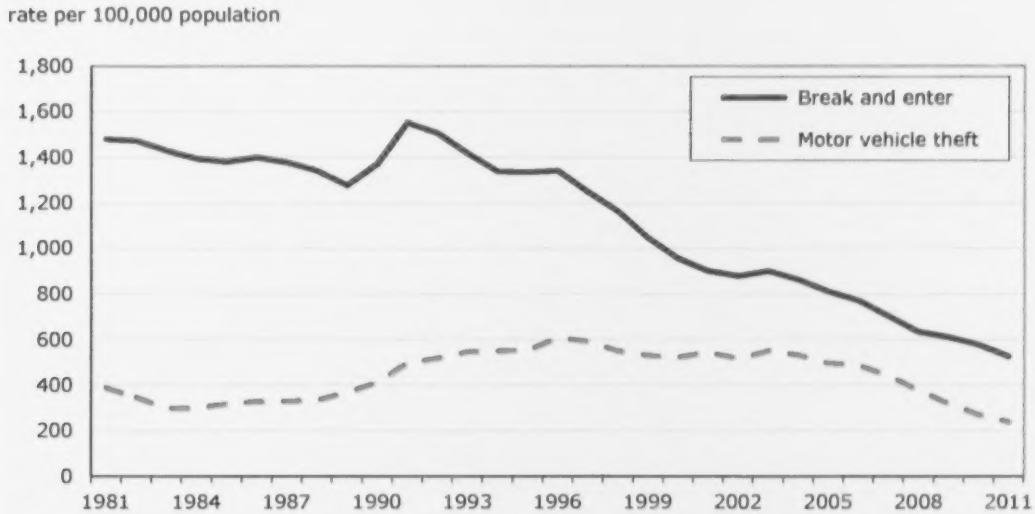
The rate of property offences reported by police in 2011 fell 8%, marking the eighth consecutive decrease, while the rate of other *Criminal Code* offences dropped 2%. The severity of non-violent crimes also decreased in 2011, down 7% compared to 2010.

The non-violent Crime Severity Index decreased or remained stable in every province and territory. Despite a 1% decrease in 2011, Saskatchewan continued to report the highest non-violent CSI among the provinces, while Ontario reported the lowest (Table 2b).

Break-ins declining since 1981

In 2011, break-ins were one of the most common forms of property crime in Canada. Police reported over 181,200 break-ins, accounting for 15% of all property-related offences. Over the past 30 years, the rate of break-ins has steadily declined, a trend which continued in 2011 (Chart 13). The rate of break-ins was 9% lower compared to the previous year, and 42% lower than a decade earlier (Table 4).

Chart 13
Break and enter, and motor vehicle theft, police-reported rates, Canada, 1981 to 2011



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Every province saw a decrease in the rate of break-ins, with the largest declines occurring in Alberta (-19%), Nova Scotia (-10%), and Manitoba (-10%). Saskatchewan reported the highest rate of break-ins, while Ontario reported the lowest (Table 5).

The rate of break-ins also declined across most CMAs, with Saint John (-31%), Edmonton (-26%) and Halifax (-24%) reporting the most substantial drops. However, some CMAs did report increases in the rate of break-ins, including London (+12%) and Thunder Bay (+7%). Overall, St. John's reported the highest rate of break-ins, while Toronto reported the lowest rate for the fourth consecutive year (Table 6).

In general, most break-ins occur in private residences. For example, in 2011, more than 6 in 10 (63%) break-ins were residential, while 28% were commercial and 10% were committed at another location, such as a school, shed or detached garage. The rate of break-ins to residences fell by 7% while break-ins to business decreased by 11%.

Motor vehicle thefts continue to decline

Police reported just over 82,400 motor vehicle thefts in 2011, about 226 stolen vehicles per day. After peaking in the mid-1990s, the rate of motor vehicle theft has been gradually declining. Overall, the rate of motor vehicle theft declined 12% from 2010 and was 56% lower than 10 years earlier (Chart 13, Table 4).

Most provinces saw a decrease in the rate of motor vehicle theft in 2011, with the exception of increases in most of the Atlantic Provinces: Newfoundland and Labrador (+6%), Prince Edward Island (+3%) and Nova Scotia (+2%). Saskatchewan reported the highest rate of motor vehicle theft, followed by Alberta and Manitoba (Table 5).

Similar to trends at the provincial level, almost every CMA reported a drop in the rate of motor vehicle theft in 2011, with the largest declines occurring in Sherbrooke (-38%), Victoria (-38%) and Winnipeg (-37%). Only six CMAs showed an increase in the rate of motor vehicle theft, with the largest increases occurring in Guelph (+23%), Saskatoon (+23%), and Moncton (+12%). Overall, the rate of motor vehicle theft was highest in Saskatoon and lowest in Kingston (Table 6).

Text box 3
Measuring crime through victimization surveys

In addition to using police-reported data, crime can also be measured through the use of self-reported victimization surveys, such as the General Social Survey (GSS) on Victimization. Conducted every 5 years, the GSS on Victimization asks Canadians 15 years and older about their experiences of victimization for 8 crime types: sexual assault, robbery, physical assault, theft of personal property, break and enter, theft of motor vehicles or their parts, theft of household property and vandalism.

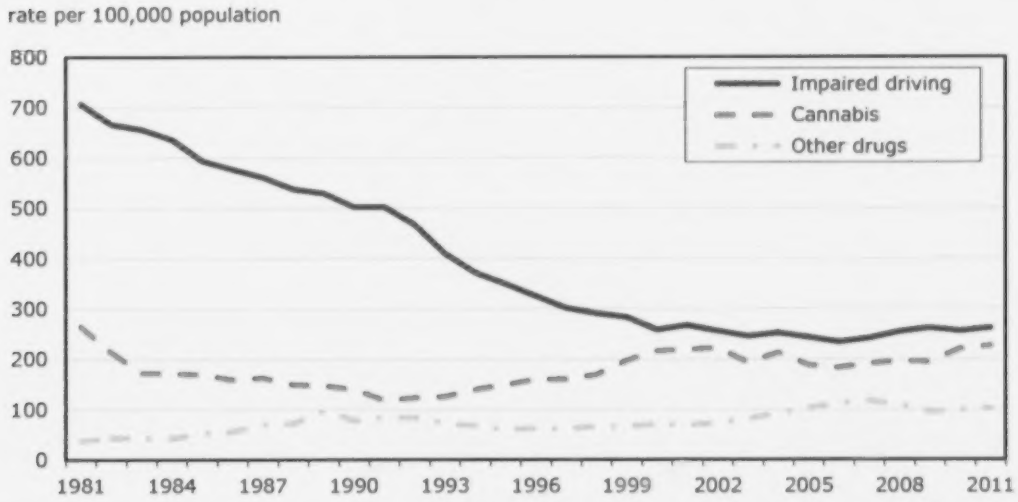
One advantage of the GSS is that it collects information on incidents that may not have been reported to police. In 2009, the latest year of available statistics, it was estimated that about two-thirds of all criminal victimizations were not reported to police. Conversely, the GSS is limited to eight crime types and relies upon respondents to accurately recall and report events. For further information on the results from the 2009 GSS, see "Criminal victimization in Canada, 2009" (Perreault and Brennan 2010).

Impaired driving increases for fourth time in past five years

Police reported close to 90,300 incidents of impaired driving in 2011, 3,000 more than the year before. The rate of impaired driving increased 2% in 2011, marking the fourth increase in the past five years. Prior to these recent increases, the impaired driving rate had steadily decreased during the 1980's and 1990's (Chart 14).

Among the provinces, the largest increases in impaired driving rates in 2011 were seen in British Columbia (+15%), Saskatchewan (+9%) and Manitoba (+7%) (Table 5).

Chart 14
Drug offences and impaired driving, police-reported rates, Canada, 1981 to 2011



Note: Includes alcohol and/or drug impaired operation of a vehicle, alcohol and/or drug impaired operation of a vehicle causing death or bodily harm, failure or refusal to comply with testing for the presence of alcohol or drugs and failure or refusal to provide a breath or blood sample.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

In spite of the overall increase in the impaired driving rate, the most serious form of this offence decreased in 2011 as the rate of impaired operation causing death decreased 29% from 2010.

The number of impaired driving offences reported by police can be influenced by a number of factors, including changes in legislation, enforcement practices (e.g. use of R.I.D.E programs) and changing societal attitudes toward drinking and driving.

Since July 2008, new legislation has allowed police to conduct mandatory roadside tests and assessments of drivers suspected to be impaired by drugs. Drug impairment accounted for 2% of all impaired driving offences, with close to 1,900 incidents in 2011, 160 fewer than 2010.

Cannabis possession offences continue to increase

In Canada, drug offences such as possession, trafficking, importation/exportation and production fall under the purview of the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*. In 2011, police reported more than 113,100 drug crimes, of which more than half (54%) were for the possession of cannabis (Table 4).

The rate of police-reported drug crime increased slightly in 2011, continuing an upward trend which began in the early 1990's (Chart 14). The increase in 2011 was driven by a 7% rise in the rate of cannabis possession offences. However, the rate of trafficking, production and distribution of cannabis declined 11%.

Similar to previous years, British Columbia reported the highest rate of drug offences among the provinces. While British Columbia was highest for cannabis offences, Saskatchewan reported the highest rate of cocaine offences, with a 73% increase in 2011 (Table 5).

Characteristics of accused persons

Males account for 4 in 5 adults charged, but female rates increasing over past decade

In general, males tend to commit crime more frequently than females, a trend which continued in 2011. Of the almost 413,800 adults (age 18 years and older) charged with a criminal offence in 2011, 79% were male.

Regardless of the type of offence, males were consistently more likely than females to be the accused. Sexual offences showed the highest representation of males: 98% of all persons charged with sexual assault level 1, child pornography and sexual violations against children in 2011 were male. The offences with the highest representation of females included abduction (49%), prostitution (47%) and theft under $5,000 (37%).

While the rate of adult males charged with a criminal offence has been declining over the past 20 years, the rate of adult females charged has generally been increasing over the past decade. This difference in trends is even more pronounced for violent crime, particularly over the past 20 years. Since 1991, the rate of males charged with violent crime has declined 32%, while the rate for females has increased 34%. However, males still accounted for more than 4 in 5 people accused of violent crime in 2011.

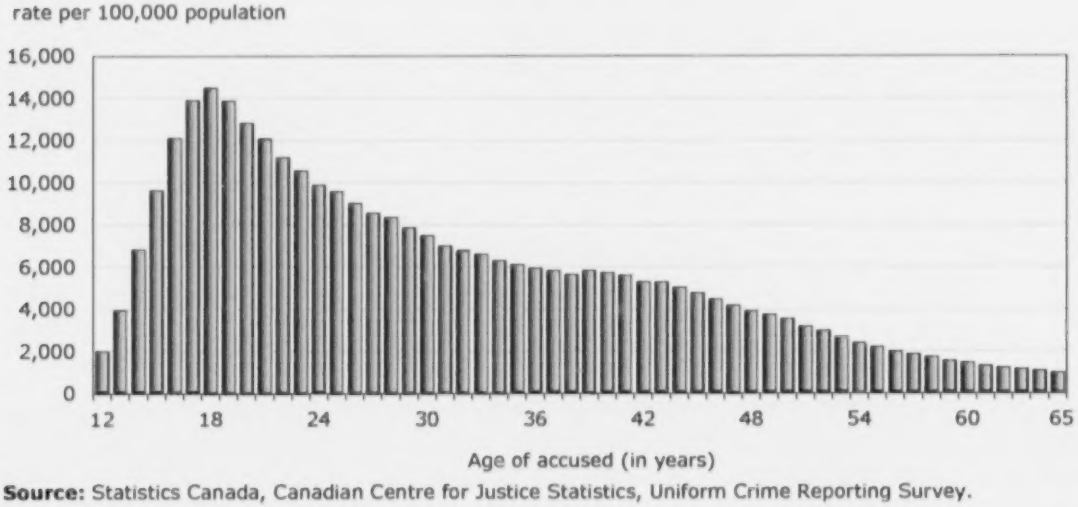
Police-reported youth crime

In Canada, youth (12 to 17 years) and adults (18 years and older) accused of crime are governed by separate justice systems. It has been long acknowledged that, while youth should be held accountable for the actions they commit, they lack the maturity of adults, and as such the principles of justice that apply to adults are not necessarily suitable for younger Canadians (Casavant et al. 2008). This section examines the nature and prevalence of crime committed by youth.

Less than one-half of youth accused are formally charged by police

On the whole, police-reported rates of offending tend to be higher among youth and young adults (Chart 15). Rates tend to increase incrementally among those aged 12 to 17, peak among those aged 18, and then decrease with increasing age.

Chart 15
Persons accused of crime, age 12 to 65 years, Canada, 2011

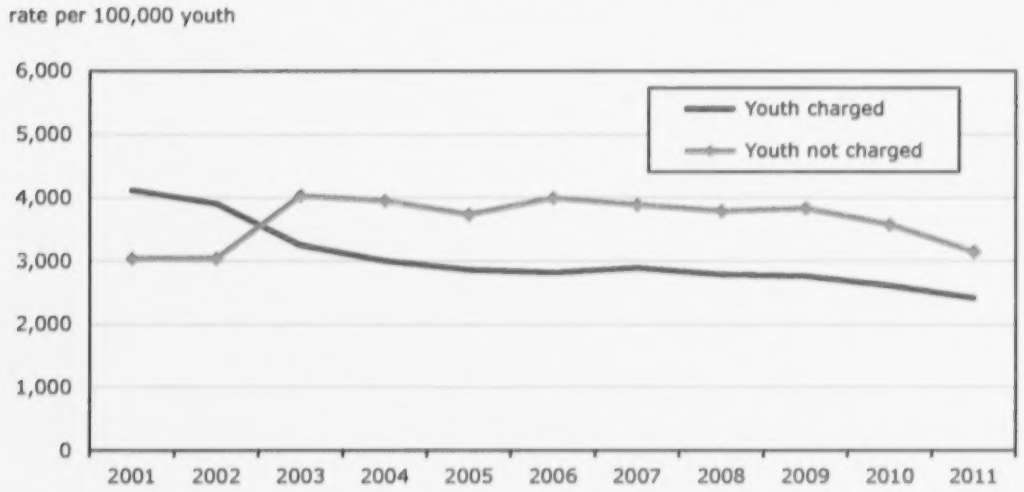


Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Over 135,600 youth were accused of a *Criminal Code* offence in 2011, about 18,100 fewer than in 2010. The number of accused includes youth who were charged (or recommended for charging) by police, and those who were dealt with by means other than the formal laying of a charge. Examples of youth not formally charged include youth diverted from the formal criminal justice system through the use of warnings, cautions and referrals to community programs.

Historically, youth in Canada were more likely to be formally charged than dealt with by other means. As of 2003, however, this trend reversed and the number of youth who were diverted from the formal justice system began to exceed the number of youth who were formally charged (Chart 16). This change corresponds to the year in which the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* was implemented, legislation which established clear guidelines for the implementation and use of extrajudicial measures (i.e. informal sanctions) for youth. In 2011, 57% of youth were diverted from the justice system while 43% were formally charged.

Chart 16
Youth accused of crime, by clearance status, Canada, 2001 to 2011

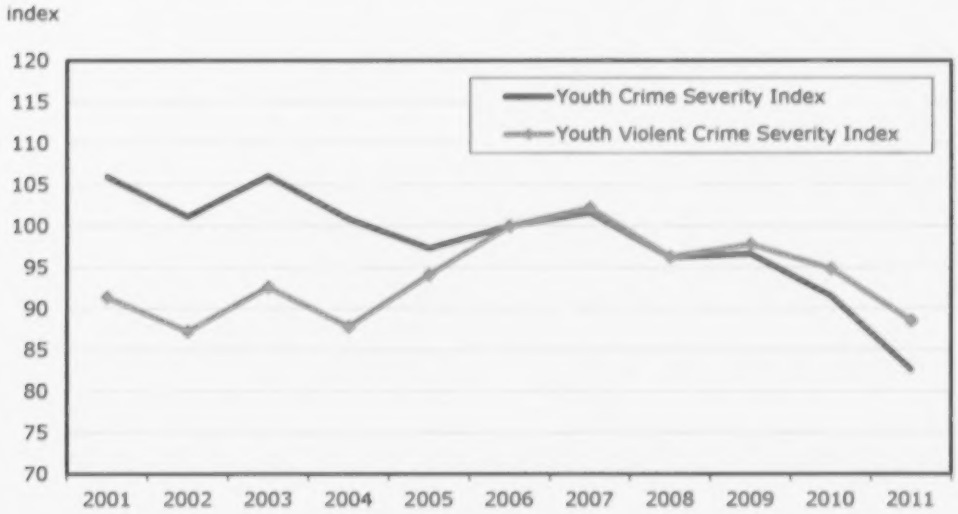


Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Volume and severity of youth crime decline in 2011

Mirroring crime trends in general, the volume and severity of youth crime have also been declining over the past decade. Between 2010 and 2011, both the youth crime rate and the youth CSI fell 10% (Table 7a, Table 7b). Since 2001, the youth CSI fell by 22% (Chart 17, Table 7b). However, the decline in youth violent crime severity over the past decade has been more modest, down 3%.

Chart 17
Police-reported youth crime severity indexes, Canada, 2001 to 2011



Note: Indexes have been standardized to a base year of 2006 which is equal to 100.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Decreases in youth crime were seen among the most serious types of crime. For example, there were 46 youth accused of homicide in 2011, 10 fewer than in 2010, which resulted in a 16% drop in the rate. Further, the rate of major assault and robbery dropped 4% from 2010. Declines were also seen in the rate of youth accused of most non-violent crimes, including break-ins (-15%) and motor-vehicle theft (-4%) (Table 8).

In 2011, every province reported decreases in the youth CSI and the youth violent CSI (Table 9). The youth CSI was lowest in British Columbia, Prince Edward Island and Quebec and highest in Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Nova Scotia.

Summary

Overall, both the volume and severity of crime in Canada continued to decline in 2011, with drops reported across most provinces and territories and all census metropolitan areas. Declines were seen in virtually all offences, with the exception of homicide, sexual offences against children, criminal harassment, impaired driving and some drug offences. Youth crime also fell in 2011.

Data source

Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey
The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey was established in 1962 with the co-operation and assistance of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police. The scope of the survey is *Criminal Code* offence and Other Federal Statutes that have been reported to all federal, provincial and municipal police services in Canada and that have been substantiated through investigation by these services.

Coverage of the UCR aggregate data reflects virtually 100% of the total caseload for all police services in Canada. One incident can involve multiple offences. In order to ensure comparability, counts presented in this article are based upon the most serious offence in the incident as determined by a standard classification rule used by all police services. Counts based upon all violations are available upon request.

Each year, the UCR database is "frozen" at the end of May for the production of crime statistics for the preceding calendar year. However, police services continue to send updated data to Statistics Canada after this date for incidents that occurred in previous years. Generally, these revisions constitute new accused records, as incidents are solved and accused persons are identified by police. However, in some cases, new incidents may be added and previously reported incidents may be deleted as new information becomes known.

Revisions are accepted for a one-year period after the data are initially released. For example, when the 2011 crime statistics are released, the 2010 data are updated with any revisions that have been made between May 2011 and May 2012. The data are revised only once and are then permanently frozen.

Over the past 10 years, the number of incidents in the previous year has been revised downward three times and upward seven times, with an average change of 0.2%. For accused persons, there has been an average upward revision of about 1% to the previous year's data.

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Detailed data tables

Table 1a
Police-reported crime rate, Canada, 2001 to 2011

	Total crime (crime rate)			Violent crime			Property crime			Other crime		
Year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year
2001	2,353,330	7,587	0	457,043	1,473	-1	1,589,425	5,124	-1	306,862	989	7
2002	2,355,322	7,512	-1	451,733	1,441	-2	1,592,782	5,080	-1	310,807	991	0
2003	2,458,482	7,770	3	453,963	1,435	0	1,676,439	5,299	4	328,080	1,037	5
2004	2,427,370	7,600	-2	448,514	1,404	-2	1,636,363	5,123	-3	342,493	1,072	3
2005	2,361,974	7,325	-4	447,857	1,389	-1	1,574,808	4,884	-5	339,309	1,052	-2
2006	2,359,804	7,244	-1	451,652	1,386	0	1,566,315	4,808	-2	341,837	1,049	0
2007	2,271,754	6,899	-5	445,252	1,352	-2	1,488,103	4,519	-6	338,399	1,028	-2
2008	2,204,643	6,617	-4	443,608	1,331	-2	1,415,572	4,249	-6	345,463	1,037	1
2009	2,172,960	6,442	-3	444,533	1,318	-1	1,386,184	4,110	-3	342,243	1,015	-2
2010[r]	2,094,875	6,139	-5	439,220	1,287	-2	1,305,150	3,824	-7	350,505	1,027	1
2011	1,984,916	5,756	-6	424,410	1,231	-4	1,213,885	3,520	-8	346,621	1,005	-2
Percent change 2001 to 2011	...	-24	...	...	-16	...	...	-31	...	...	2	...

... not applicable
[r] revised

Note: Crime rates are based upon *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic offences). See Table 4 for a list of offences included in each crime category. Counts are based upon the most serious violation in the incident. One incident may involve multiple violations. Data for the rates of total, violent, property and other crime categories are available beginning in 1962. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Percent change based on unrounded rates. Populations based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 1b
Police-reported crime severity indexes, Canada, 2001 to 2011

	Total Crime Severity Index		Violent Crime Severity Index		Non-violent Crime Severity Index	
Year	index	percent change from previous year	index	percent change from previous year	index	percent change from previous year
2001	105.3	-1	97.2	-1	108.4	-2
2002	104.1	-1	96.2	-1	107.2	-1
2003	106.8	3	97.6	1	110.4	3
2004	104.1	-3	96.0	-2	107.2	-3
2005	101.3	-3	98.5	3	102.4	-4
2006	100.0	-1	100.0	2	100.0	-2
2007	95.2	-5	97.7	-2	94.2	-6
2008	90.4	-5	94.9	-3	88.7	-6
2009	87.5	-3	94.0	-1	85.0	-4
2010[r]	82.7	-6	88.9	-5	80.3	-6
2011	77.6	-6	85.3	-4	74.7	-7
Percent change 2001 to 2011	-26	...	-12	...	-31	...

... not applicable
[r] revised

Note: Data on the crime severity indexes are available beginning in 1998.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 2a
Police-reported crime rate, by province and territory, 2011

Province and territory	Total crime (crime rate)			Violent crime		
	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year
Newfoundland and Labrador	32,888	6,441	-4	7,838	1,535	-1
Prince Edward Island	9,098	6,238	1	1,659	1,137	-3
Nova Scotia	61,462	6,501	-7	13,786	1,458	-7
New Brunswick	39,685	5,253	-5	11,028	1,460	-4
Quebec	355,780	4,459	-6	83,381	1,045	-2
Ontario	561,306	4,197	-6	127,034	950	-4
Manitoba	112,437	8,991	-8	26,265	2,100	-4
Saskatchewan	129,821	12,272	-3	25,032	2,366	-7
Alberta	280,305	7,417	-9	53,098	1,405	-5
British Columbia	360,913	7,892	-7	66,784	1,460	-7
Yukon	7,252	20,920	0	1,465	4,226	0
Northwest Territories	20,978	48,032	3	3,712	8,499	0
Nunavut	12,991	38,986	-2	3,328	9,987	-4
Canada	**1,984,916**	**5,756**	**-6**	**424,410**	**1,231**	**-4**

Province and territory	Property crime			Other *Criminal Code* offences		
	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year
Newfoundland and Labrador	19,978	3,913	-5	5,072	993	-5
Prince Edward Island	6,331	4,341	1	1,108	760	9
Nova Scotia	38,013	4,021	-7	9,663	1,022	-5
New Brunswick	22,915	3,033	-8	5,742	760	8
Quebec	228,197	2,860	-8	44,202	554	1
Ontario	366,240	2,739	-7	68,032	509	-5
Manitoba	61,452	4,914	-14	24,720	1,977	3
Saskatchewan	71,782	6,785	-2	33,007	3,120	-3
Alberta	165,203	4,371	-11	62,004	1,641	-4
British Columbia	214,885	4,699	-8	79,244	1,733	-2
Yukon	3,186	9,191	2	2,601	7,503	-3
Northwest Territories	10,099	23,123	3	7,167	16,410	4
Nunavut	5,604	16,818	-1	4,059	12,181	0
Canada	**1,213,885**	**3,520**	**-8**	**346,621**	**1,005**	**-2**

Note: Crime rates are based upon *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic offences). See Table 4 for a list of offences included in each crime category. Counts are based upon the most serious violation in the incident. One incident may involve multiple violations. Data for the rates of total, violent, property and other crime categories are available beginning in 1962. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Percent change based on unrounded rates. Populations based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 2b
Police-reported crime severity indexes, by province and territory, 2011

Province and territory	Total Crime Severity Index		Violent Crime Severity Index		Non-violent Crime Severity Index	
	index	percent change 2010 to 2011	index	percent change 2010 to 2011	index	percent change 2010 to 2011
Newfoundland and Labrador	74.0	-8	60.4	-15	79.2	-6
Prince Edward Island	65.8	0	42.0	1	75.0	0
Nova Scotia	79.1	-5	84.7	0	76.9	-7
New Brunswick	65.0	-6	63.3	-8	65.7	-5
Quebec	73.5	-4	76.5	1	72.4	-5
Ontario	61.1	-6	73.4	-5	56.4	-7
Manitoba	117.5	-7	167.1	0	98.5	-10
Saskatchewan	144.8	-3	141.5	-8	146.0	-1
Alberta	88.6	-10	94.4	-4	86.4	-12
British Columbia	95.1	-7	94.6	-8	95.2	-7
Yukon	159.2	-7	169.4	-9	155.2	-6
Northwest Territories	342.7	0	314.6	-4	353.5	1
Nunavut	326.1	-6	469.3	-8	271.1	-5
Canada	**77.6**	**-6**	**85.3**	**-4**	**74.7**	**-7**

Note: Data on provincial and territorial crime severity indexes are available beginning in 1998.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 3
Police-reported crime severity indexes, by census metropolitan area, 2011

Census metropolitan area[1,2,3]	Population	Total Crime Severity Index		Violent Crime Severity Index		Non-violent Crime Severity Index	
	number	index	percent change 2010 to 2011	index	percent change 2010 to 2011	index	percent change 2010 to 2011
Regina	222,125	124.5	-6	123.5	-18	124.9	0
Saskatoon	277,504	118.7	-8	134.5	-14	112.7	-5
Thunder Bay	119,999	107.3	-4	128.7	-8	99.1	-2
Winnipeg	767,277	107.2	-7	173.8	6	81.6	-16
Kelowna	182,239	97.4	-14	86.0	-11	101.8	-15
Vancouver	2,424,544	94.5	-7	98.3	-9	93.1	-6
St. John's	188,653	93.3	-7	74.7	-16	100.5	-4
Brantford	140,267	92.2	-7	84.5	-10	95.2	-7
Edmonton	1,198,397	89.4	-13	105.9	-2	83.0	-18
Abbotsford–Mission	177,866	87.9	-11	72.4	-19	93.9	-9
Halifax	408,000	87.4	-9	111.7	6	78.1	-16
Montréal	3,924,554	80.9	-2	97.7	0	74.5	-3
Saint John	103,412	79.2	-14	91.3	-6	74.6	-17
London	499,637	79.0	-4	70.5	-5	82.3	-4
Greater Sudbury	162,892	78.9	-7	78.7	-8	79.0	-7
Victoria	362,264	71.3	-17	70.9	-15	71.4	-17
Saguenay	145,506	71.1	-3	55.2	-5	77.2	-2
Moncton	138,607	68.8	-5	68.2	-7	69.1	-4
Trois-Rivières	149,761	67.9	-3	46.2	4	76.3	-4
Calgary	1,270,927	65.8	-14	72.1	-11	63.4	-15
Hamilton	737,330	65.2	-8	75.8	-5	61.2	-9
Gatineau[4]	311,644	63.6	-8	68.1	14	61.8	-15
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	530,248	62.9	-7	69.5	0	60.4	-10
Windsor	331,284	62.5	-5	59.8	-7	63.5	-4
Peterborough	123,094	62.2	-8	60.2	-8	62.9	-8
Sherbrooke	190,154	60.7	-11	49.3	4	65.1	-14
St. Catharines–Niagara	445,363	60.7	-13	48.0	-16	65.6	-13
Kingston	161,350	59.5	-5	48.1	-12	63.9	-3
Barrie	200,602	58.3	-3	49.2	-2	61.7	-3
Ottawa[5]	946,835	57.9	-5	63.9	-6	55.6	-4
Toronto	5,783,398	54.9	-5	84.7	-3	43.5	-6
Québec	759,446	52.2	-6	46.8	-8	54.3	-6
Guelph	126,106	47.0	-7	48.2	8	46.5	-12
Canada	**34,482,779**	**77.6**	**-6**	**85.3**	**-4**	**74.7**	**-7**

1. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.
2. CMA populations have been adjusted to follow policing boundaries.
3. The Oshawa CMA is excluded from this table due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.
4. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.
5. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.

Note: Data on the crime severity indexes by census metropolitan area are available beginning in 1998.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 4
Police-reported crime for selected offences, Canada, 2010 and 2011

Type of offence	2010[r]		2011		Percent change in rate 2010 to 2011	Percent change in rate 2001 to 2011
	number	rate	number	rate	percent	
Total crime (excluding traffic) – "Crime Rate"	**2,094,875**	**6,139**	**1,984,916**	**5,756**	**-6**	**-24**
Violent crime						
Homicide	554	2	598	2	7	-3
Other violations causing death[1]	100	0	78	0	-23	-49
Attempted murder	668	2	655	2	-3	-19
Sexual assault - level 3 - aggravated	179	1	140	0	-23	-22
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	402	1	398	1	-2	12
Sexual assault - level 1	21,795	64	21,283	62	-3	-19
Sexual violations against children[2,3]	3,684	11	3,822	11	3	...
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	3,481	10	3,486	10	-1	15
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	51,955	152	50,184	146	-4	5
Assault - level 1	175,289	514	172,770	501	-2	-19
Assault police officer[4]	15,913	47	11,943	35	-26	31
Other assaults	3,281	10	3,097	9	-7	-34
Firearms - use of, discharge, pointing	2,017	6	1,936	6	-5	-20
Robbery	30,478	89	29,746	86	-3	-13
Forcible confinement or kidnapping	4,301	13	3,774	11	-13	35
Abduction	449	1	402	1	-11	-46
Extortion	1,578	5	1,525	4	-4	-17
Criminal harassment	21,315	62	21,690	63	1	1
Uttering threats	76,347	224	71,945	209	-7	-28
Threatening or harassing phone calls	21,604	63	20,341	59	-7	-42
Other violent *Criminal Code* violations	3,830	11	4,597	13	19	9
Total	**439,220**	**1,287**	**424,410**	**1,231**	**-4**	**-16**
Property crime						
Breaking and entering	197,058	577	181,217	526	-9	-42
Possess stolen property[5,6]	30,275	89	21,496	62	-30	-28
Theft of motor vehicle	92,505	271	82,411	239	-12	-56
Theft over $5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	15,649	46	15,153	44	-4	-35
Theft under $5,000 (non-motor vehicle)	527,509	1,546	497,452	1,443	-7	-32
Fraud[7]	89,830	263	89,801	260	-1	-7
Mischief[8]	340,090	997	315,977	916	-8	-15
Arson	12,234	36	10,378	30	-16	-35
Total	**1,305,150**	**3,824**	**1,213,885**	**3,520**	**-8**	**-31**
Other *Criminal Code* offences						
Counterfeiting	815	2	620	2	-25	-68
Weapons violations	15,038	44	14,471	42	-5	0
Child pornography[9]	..	..	..	..	..	..
Prostitution	3,020	9	2,459	7	-19	-57
Disturb the peace	119,913	351	117,476	341	-3	17
Administration of justice violations	178,135	522	177,159	514	-2	2
Other violations	31,366	92	31,304	91	-1	-29
Total	**350,505**	**1,027**	**346,621**	**1,005**	**-2**	**2**
***Criminal Code* traffic violations**						
Impaired driving[10]	87,231	256	90,277	262	2	-2
Other *Criminal Code* traffic violations	55,615	163	55,938	162	0	29
Total	**142,846**	**419**	**146,215**	**424**	**1**	**8**

Table 4 (continued)
Police-reported crime for selected offences, Canada, 2010 and 2011

	2010[r]		2011		Percent change in rate 2010 to 2011	Percent change in rate 2001 to 2011
Type of offence	**number**	**rate**	**number**	**rate**	**percent**	
Drug offences						
Possession - cannabis	56,853	167	61,406	178	7	16
Possession - cocaine	7,325	21	7,392	21	0	23
Possession - other drugs[11]	9,761	29	10,352	30	5	97
Trafficking, production or distribution - cannabis	18,363	54	16,548	48	-11	-26
Trafficking, production or distribution - cocaine	9,873	29	10,251	30	3	37
Trafficking, production or distribution - other drugs	7,047	21	7,215	21	1	41
Total	**109,222**	**320**	**113,164**	**328**	**3**	**14**
Other federal statute violations						
Youth Criminal Justice Act	11,957	35	11,619	34	-4	-44
Other federal statutes	20,767	61	21,344	62	2	0
Total	**32,724**	**96**	**32,963**	**96**	**0**	**-22**
Total - all violations	**2,379,667**	**6,973**	**2,277,258**	**6,604**	**-5**	**-21**

.. not available for a specific reference period
[r] revised

1. Includes, for example, criminal negligence causing death.
2. Sexual offences against children is a relatively new crime category with only partial data available prior to 2010 therefore the percent change from 2001 to 2011 is not shown.
3. Includes sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, and luring a child via a computer. Excludes incidents of child pornography due to limited information on victim characteristics.
4. In 2010, a system anomaly resulted in some non-peace officer assaults being coded as peace officer assaults in 2010. Comparisons between 2010 and other years should be made with caution.
5. Includes trafficking and the intent to traffic stolen goods.
6. In 2011, the UCR survey was modified to create separate categories for possession of stolen property less than or equal to $5,000, and possession of stolen property over $5,000. As a result, incidents of possession under $5,000 may now be reported as secondary offences when occurring in conjunction with more serious offences, leading to a decrease in the number of possession of stolen property incidents reported in 2011.
7. Includes identity theft and identity fraud.
8. Includes altering, removing or destroying a vehicle identification number (VIN).
9. Due to incorrect reporting by a police service of incidents of child pornography from 2008 to 2011, the data originally contained in this report have been suppressed and revised data were made available on July 25, 2013 with the release of 2012 crime statistics.
10. Includes alcohol and/or drug impaired operation of a vehicle, alcohol and/or drug impaired operation of a vehicle causing death or bodily harm, failure or refusal to comply with testing for the presence of alcohol or drugs and failure or refusal to provide a breath or blood sample.
11. Includes precursors and equipment.
Note: Counts are based upon the most serious violation in the incident. One incident may involve multiple violations. Data for specific types of crime are available (in most cases) beginning in 1977. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Percent change based on unrounded rates. Populations based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 5
Police-reported crime for selected offences, by province and territory, 2011

Province and territory	Homicide			Attempted murder			Major assault (levels 2 and 3)			Robbery		
	number	rate	percent change in rate 2010 to 2011[1]	number	rate	percent change in rate 2010 to 2011[1]	number	rate	percent change in rate 2010 to 2011	number	rate	percent change in rate 2010 to 2011
Newfoundland and Labrador	4	0.8	...	3	0.6	...	685	134	3	110	22	-32
Prince Edward Island	1	0.7	...	0	0.0	...	136	93	4	16	11	-28
Nova Scotia	22	2.3	5	60	6.3	150	1,499	159	15	468	50	-5
New Brunswick	8	1.1	-11	17	2.3	30	986	131	0	136	18	-5
Quebec	105	1.3	24	173	2.2	-16	11,194	140	-5	6,768	85	4
Ontario	161	1.2	-16	221	1.7	-11	14,659	110	-5	11,511	86	-2
Manitoba	53	4.2	16	31	2.5	18	4,483	358	-3	2,231	178	1
Saskatchewan	38	3.6	10	28	2.6	-8	3,951	373	-3	1,085	103	-16
Alberta	109	2.9	39	38	1.0	-11	6,762	179	-3	2,917	77	-11
British Columbia	87	1.9	4	79	1.7	3	8,278	181	-9	4,465	98	-10
Yukon	0	0.0	...	4	11.5	...	208	600	25	13	38	-24
Northwest Territories	3	6.9	...	1	2.3	...	455	1,042	13	14	32	-41
Nunavut	7	21.0	15	0	0.0	...	374	1,122	0	12	36	-16
Canada	**598**	**1.7**	**7**	**655**	**1.9**	**-3**	**53,670**	**156**	**-4**	**29,746**	**86**	**-3**

Province and territory	Sexual assault (levels 1, 2 and 3)			Sexual violations against children			Break and enter			Motor vehicle theft		
	number	rate	percent change in rate 2010 to 2011	number[2]	rate	percent change in rate 2010 to 2011[1]	number	rate	percent change in rate 2010 to 2011	number	rate	percent change in rate 2010 to 2011
Newfoundland and Labrador	330	65	-10	82	16	-13	3,136	614	-8	593	116	6
Prince Edward Island	76	52	22	23	16	-6	689	472	-7	120	82	3
Nova Scotia	708	75	4	105	11	13	4,764	504	-10	1,308	138	2
New Brunswick	548	73	-8	135	18	0	3,379	447	-8	1,215	161	-3
Quebec	3,855	48	-11	1,040	13	-4	50,395	632	-7	22,397	281	-8
Ontario	7,821	58	0	866	6	11	50,719	379	-9	20,768	155	-9
Manitoba	1,477	118	1	175	14	28	9,305	744	-10	3,919	313	-31
Saskatchewan	1,123	106	-4	221	21	-5	9,079	858	-9	4,967	470	-2
Alberta	2,739	72	0	356	9	-14	18,534	490	-19	13,461	356	-13
British Columbia	2,700	59	-7	749	16	10	29,723	650	-6	13,186	288	-18
Yukon	64	185	-5	4	12	...	192	554	-22	114	329	-30
Northwest Territories	179	410	-4	16	37	7	747	1,710	4	213	488	-4
Nunavut	201	603	-1	50	150	33	555	1,666	-18	150	450	-28
Canada	**21,821**	**63**	**-3**	**3,822**	**11**	**3**	**181,217**	**526**	**-9**	**82,411**	**239**	**-12**

Table 5 (continued)
Police-reported crime for selected offences, by province and territory, 2011

Province and territory	Impaired driving[3] number	Impaired driving[3] rate	Impaired driving[3] percent change in rate 2010 to 2011	Cannabis[4] number	Cannabis[4] rate	Cannabis[4] percent change in rate 2010 to 2011	Cocaine[4] number	Cocaine[4] rate	Cocaine[4] percent change in rate 2010 to 2011	Other drugs[4,5] number	Other drugs[4,5] rate	Other drugs[4,5] percent change in rate 2010 to 2011
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,849	362	-13	1,114	218	5	240	47	20	344	67	2
Prince Edward Island	719	493	-3	169	116	2	28	19	-17	124	85	107
Nova Scotia	3,097	328	-10	2,472	261	4	343	36	8	454	48	3
New Brunswick	2,233	296	-16	1,463	194	-3	251	33	12	383	51	-6
Quebec	16,820	211	2	16,024	201	-1	2,099	26	6	5,071	64	12
Ontario	17,326	130	-1	23,054	172	4	4,986	37	-3	5,659	42	-1
Manitoba	4,031	322	7	2,088	167	5	875	70	19	383	31	1
Saskatchewan	7,229	683	9	3,471	328	24	1,236	117	73	680	64	8
Alberta	17,001	450	-1	7,597	201	2	2,914	77	-1	1,291	34	-9
British Columbia	18,835	412	15	19,412	424	1	4,504	98	-8	3,123	68	5
Yukon	327	943	-20	134	387	17	44	127	-3	7	20	-68
Northwest Territories	639	1,463	-14	543	1,243	-4	120	275	-12	34	78	-34
Nunavut	171	513	-19	413	1,239	20	3	9	-41	14	42	130
Canada	**90,277**	**262**	**2**	**77,954**	**226**	**3**	**17,643**	**51**	**2**	**17,567**	**51**	**3**

... not applicable

1. Due to the variability in small numbers, percent changes have not been calculated when the number of offences is below 5 in any given year.
2. Includes sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, and luring a child via a computer. Excludes incidents of child pornography due to limited information on victim characteristics.
3. Includes alcohol and/or drug impaired operation of a vehicle, alcohol and/or drug impaired operation of a vehicle causing death or bodily harm, failure or refusal to comply with testing for the presence of alcohol or drugs and failure or refusal to provide a breath or blood sample.
4. Includes possession, trafficking, production or distribution.
5. Includes other drugs such as heroin, crystal meth and ecstasy. Also includes precursors and equipment.

Note: Counts are based upon the most serious violation in the incident. One incident may involve multiple violations. Provincial and territorial data for specific types of crime are available (in most cases) beginning in 1977. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Percent change based on unrounded rates. Populations based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 6
Police-reported crime for selected offences, by census metropolitan area, 2011

Census metropolitan area[1,2,3]	Total crime (crime rate)[4] rate	Total crime (crime rate)[4] percent change in rate 2010 to 2011	Homicide[5] number	Homicide[5] rate	Robbery rate	Robbery percent change in rate 2010 to 2011	Break and enter rate	Break and enter percent change in rate 2010 to 2011	Motor vehicle theft rate	Motor vehicle theft percent change in rate 2010 to 2011
Regina	9,706	-3	7	3.2	149	-25	763	5	489	-13
Saskatoon	9,464	0	6	2.2	169	-15	669	-21	579	23
Kelowna	8,371	-12	2	1.1	76	-16	634	-23	437	-11
Thunder Bay	8,284	-5	4	3.3	143	-4	777	7	177	0
St. John's	7,281	-8	4	2.1	41	-43	781	-1	160	-11
Vancouver	7,105	-5	43	1.8	134	-9	689	-3	294	-21
Edmonton	6,943	-12	50	4.2	103	-14	441	-26	367	-18
Brantford	6,812	-6	2	1.4	61	-9	617	-14	523	10
Abbotsford–Mission	6,579	-9	1	0.6	78	-3	644	-5	431	-22
Halifax	6,494	-11	18	4.4	95	0	469	-24	157	2
Winnipeg	6,454	-13	39	5.1	266	3	663	-16	318	-37
Victoria	6,390	-16	6	1.7	62	-25	401	-17	115	-38
Saint John	6,386	-14	3	2.9	44	15	328	-31	103	-28
Moncton	5,960	3	0	0.0	30	-8	447	-1	164	12
London	5,788	-7	9	1.8	78	-4	656	12	208	-13
Greater Sudbury	5,431	-6	0	0.0	101	30	756	-9	149	-17
Barrie	5,073	-4	1	0.5	43	30	346	-5	107	4
Kingston	5,023	-2	0	0.0	20	-12	467	-5	79	-25
Montréal	4,785	-5	54	1.4	146	3	619	-3	335	-6
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	4,654	-6	7	1.3	72	13	371	-11	131	-12
Gatineau[6]	4,617	-8	5	1.6	44	-4	568	-22	131	-29
Windsor	4,607	-8	1	0.3	69	-9	487	4	142	-11
Hamilton	4,549	-8	7	0.9	84	-9	383	-13	334	-5
Calgary	4,536	-9	14	1.1	93	-14	438	-23	319	-13
Peterborough	4,495	-7	3	2.4	51	-21	517	-11	84	-22
Trois-Rivières	4,448	-9	1	0.7	33	13	747	3	221	-15
St. Catharines–Niagara	4,302	-13	2	0.4	49	-11	502	-20	185	-7
Saguenay	4,194	-7	1	0.7	19	0	638	3	192	-9
Ottawa[7]	4,123	-4	11	1.2	88	-1	291	-8	122	-11
Guelph	3,921	-8	1	0.8	26	-26	300	-16	106	23
Sherbrooke	3,830	-10	1	0.5	27	-26	475	-22	124	-38
Québec	3,587	-7	3	0.4	38	7	496	-6	140	-6
Toronto	3,382	-5	86	1.5	127	-1	276	-10	150	-12
Canada	**5,756**	**-6**	**598**	**1.7**	**86**	**-3**	**526**	**-9**	**239**	**-12**

1. A census metropolitan area (CMA) consists of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. To be included in the CMA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census data. A CMA typically comprises more than one police service.
2. CMA populations have been adjusted to follow policing boundaries.
3. The Oshawa CMA is excluded from this table due to the incongruity between the police service jurisdictional boundaries and the CMA boundaries.
4. The crime rate is based upon *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic offences). See Table 4 for a list of offences included in the total crime category.
5. Due to the variability in small numbers, percent changes in the rates of homicide are not calculated.
6. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.
7. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA.

Note: Counts are based upon the most serious violation in the incident. One incident may involve multiple violations. Data for specific types of crime by census metropolitan areas are available beginning in 1991. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population. Percent change based on unrounded rates. Populations based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 7a
Youth accused of police-reported crime, Canada, 2001 to 2011

	Total crime (youth crime rate)			Violent crime			Property crime			Other crime		
Year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year	number	rate	percent change in rate from previous year
2001	178,529	7,159	4	49,475	1,984	2	99,097	3,974	2	29,957	1,201	13
2002	175,537	6,945	-3	47,960	1,898	-4	98,021	3,878	-2	29,556	1,169	-3
2003	186,041	7,280	5	50,106	1,961	3	105,625	4,133	7	30,310	1,186	1
2004	179,670	6,959	-4	49,695	1,925	-2	99,601	3,858	-7	30,374	1,176	-1
2005	172,024	6,596	-5	49,430	1,895	-2	92,631	3,552	-8	29,963	1,149	-2
2006	178,839	6,812	3	51,452	1,960	3	94,835	3,612	2	32,552	1,240	8
2007	177,400	6,782	0	51,144	1,955	0	93,701	3,582	-1	32,555	1,245	0
2008	169,747	6,577	-3	49,130	1,903	-3	88,878	3,443	-4	31,739	1,230	-1
2009	167,103	6,593	0	48,030	1,895	0	88,309	3,484	1	30,764	1,214	-1
2010[r]	153,728	6,186	-6	46,056	1,853	-2	78,772	3,170	-9	28,900	1,163	-4
2011	135,647	5,564	-10	42,799	1,756	-5	66,662	2,735	-14	26,186	1,074	-8
Percent change 2001 to 2011	...	-22	...	...	-12	...	...	-31	...	...	-11	...

... not applicable
[r] revised

Note: Crime rates are based upon *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic offences). See Table 4 for the list of offences included in each crime category. Refers to the number of youth 12 to 17 years of age who were either charged (or recommended for charging) by police or diverted from the formal criminal justice system through the use of warnings, cautions, referrals to community programs, etc. Counts are based upon the most serious violation in the incident. One incident may involve multiple violations. Data for the youth crime rates of total, violent, property and other crime categories are available beginning in 1977. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 youth population. Percent change based on unrounded rates. Populations based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 7b
Police-reported youth crime severity indexes, Canada, 2001 to 2011

	Youth Crime Severity Index		Youth violent Crime Severity Index		Youth non-violent Crime Severity Index	
Year	index	percent change from previous year	index	percent change from previous year	index	percent change from previous year
2001	106.0	2	91.4	2	117.1	2
2002	101.1	-5	87.3	-5	111.7	-5
2003	106.0	5	92.6	6	116.2	4
2004	100.8	-5	87.8	-5	110.7	-5
2005	97.3	-4	94.1	7	99.8	-10
2006	100.0	2	100.0	6	100.0	-1
2007	101.6	2	102.2	2	101.1	1
2008	96.2	-5	96.3	-6	96.2	-5
2009	96.6	0	97.8	2	95.8	0
2010[r]	91.6	-5	94.9	-3	89.1	-7
2011	82.6	-10	88.6	-7	78.1	-12
Percent change 2001 to 2011	-22.0	...	-3.1	...	-33.3	...

... not applicable
[r] revised

Note: Refers to the number of youth 12 to 17 years of age who were either charged (or recommended for charging) by police or diverted from the formal criminal justice system through the use of warnings, cautions, referrals to community programs, etc. Data on the youth crime severity indexes are available beginning in 1998.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 8
Police-reported youth crime for selected offences, by province and territory, 2011

Province and territory	Homicide[1] number	Homicide[1] rate	Robbery[2] rate	Robbery[2] percent change in rate 2010 to 2011	Major assault (levels 2 and 3) rate	Major assault (levels 2 and 3) percent change in rate 2010 to 2011	Total violent crime[3] rate	Total violent crime[3] percent change in rate 2010 to 2011
Newfoundland and Labrador	1	3.0	12	...	253	24	2,032	-4
Prince Edward Island	0	0.0	9	...	135	116	1,477	-9
Nova Scotia	2	3.1	170	23	311	4	2,649	-4
New Brunswick	1	2.0	39	86	223	-3	2,183	-17
Quebec	1	0.2	128	-1	239	-2	1,662	2
Ontario	11	1.1	215	2	178	-4	1,549	-3
Manitoba	14	13.9	304	-14	607	-8	3,160	-12
Saskatchewan	6	7.2	194	-24	558	-13	3,404	-12
Alberta	7	2.6	110	-4	259	-7	1,793	-10
British Columbia	3	1.0	115	-18	185	-5	1,217	-6
Yukon	0	0.0	41	...	535	50	4,071	-13
Northwest Territories	0	0.0	82	...	1,196	14	7,418	-3
Nunavut	0	0.0	49	...	939	-11	5,882	-27
Canada	**46**	**1.9**	**165**	**-4**	**240**	**-4**	**1,756**	**-5**

Table 8 (continued)
Police-reported youth crime for selected offences, by province and territory, 2011

Province and territory	Break and enter rate	Break and enter percent change in rate 2010 to 2011	Motor vehicle theft rate	Motor vehicle theft percent change in rate 2010 to 2011	Total property crime[3] rate	Total property crime[3] percent change in rate 2010 to 2011	Total crime (youth crime rate)[3] rate	Total crime (youth crime rate)[3] percent change in rate 2010 to 2011
Newfoundland and Labrador	572	-10	167	-15	3,345	-4	6,327	-5
Prince Edward Island	486	-1	171	28	3,286	-16	5,303	-13
Nova Scotia	516	-17	193	32	4,470	-6	8,985	-2
New Brunswick	427	-25	170	-27	3,037	-31	6,445	-22
Quebec	288	-10	99	-13	1,815	-11	3,800	-6
Ontario	242	-13	79	0	2,253	-13	4,561	-9
Manitoba	726	-23	232	-19	3,641	-24	9,330	-14
Saskatchewan	1,506	1	596	17	8,874	-4	16,997	-4
Alberta	295	-32	186	0	3,532	-16	6,918	-13
British Columbia	217	-10	61	-1	2,315	-18	4,623	-15
Yukon	452	-65	576	-27	8,758	-19	18,133	-20
Northwest Territories	3,370	-26	815	-41	18,342	-21	36,168	-15
Nunavut	3,361	-32	1,384	-33	13,767	-20	25,235	-24
Canada	**345**	**-15**	**127**	**-4**	**2,735**	**-14**	**5,564**	**-10**

... not applicable

1. Due to the variability in small numbers, percent changes in the rates of youth accused of homicide are not calculated.
2. Due to the variability in small numbers, for some jurisdictions percent changes in the rates of youth accused of robbery are not calculated.
3. Crime rates are based upon *Criminal Code* incidents (excluding traffic offences). See Table 4 for a list of offences included in the total violent crime, total property crime and total crime categories.

Note: Refers to the number of youth (12 to 17) years of age who were either charged (or recommended for charging) by police or diverted from the formal criminal justice system through the use of warnings, cautions, referrals to community programs, etc. Counts are based upon the most serious violation in the incident. One incident may involve multiple violations. Provincial and territorial data for specific types of youth crime are available (in most cases) beginning in 1977. Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 youth population (12 to 17 years). Percent change based on unrounded rates. Populations based upon July 1st estimates from Statistics Canada, Demography Division.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Table 9
Police-reported youth crime severity indexes, by province and territory, 2011

Province and territory	Youth Crime Severity Index		Youth violent Crime Severity Index		Youth non-violent Crime Severity Index	
	index	percent change 2010 to 2011	index	percent change 2010 to 2011	index	percent change 2010 to 2011
Newfoundland and Labrador	69.3	-13	44.2	-22	88.4	-9
Prince Edward Island	60.6	-10	29.5	-25	84.3	-4
Nova Scotia	119.3	-4	114.2	-1	123.2	-6
New Brunswick	78.7	-21	58.6	-15	93.9	-23
Quebec	62.7	-7	71.7	-5	55.8	-9
Ontario	76.9	-7	94.4	-1	63.5	-13
Manitoba	159.7	-10	202.3	-2	127.3	-17
Saskatchewan	220.9	-7	152.7	-22	272.9	0
Alberta	83.7	-16	77.0	-12	88.8	-18
British Columbia	60.5	-16	59.3	-17	61.4	-15
Yukon	145.4	-38	88.5	-49	188.7	-32
Northwest Territories	360.8	-18	197.6	8	485.0	-23
Nunavut	293.2	-35	157.3	-53	396.7	-27
Canada	**82.6**	**-10**	**88.6**	**-7**	**78.1**	**-12**

Note: Refers to youth 12 to 17 years of age who were either charged (or recommended for charging) by police or diverted from the formal criminal justice system through the use of warnings, cautions, referrals to community programs, etc. Data on the provincial and territorial youth crime severity indexes are available beginning in 1998.
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.